

both of these articles whenever it is soliciting business from any pharmaceutical house.

"As soon as the doctor will depend on his State Journal for information about the things he wants to buy, then it will not be possible to print the advertisements that will come to your publication. That is just the difficulty the A. M. A. Journal is having at this time. Furthermore, the advertisements bring the advertiser better returns."

THE HARRISON LAW; CONSCIENCE OR CUPIDITY?

A number of letters have come to the JOURNAL asking for information in regard to various points connected with the administration of the Harrison anti-narcotic law and the rights of physicians thereunder. Many physicians have, and practically every physician at some time or other has had under his care, a drug habitue. Many of these, for one reason or another, do not appear to be good subjects for an attempted cure or for the immediate withdrawal of the drug. That is a matter that is up to the conscience of the physician. The law permits him to prescribe these drugs, but he must put the name and address of the patient on the prescription and also his own name in full and the number of his Federal license. He may personally give a dose to a patient except in his office, without keeping any record. If, however, he gives any prescribed drug to a patient in his office or to be used when he is not present or to be given to the patient by some one else or to be taken subsequently by the patient, then he must keep a record of the name of the patient, the date, the drug and its amount, and this record he must keep for two years. The purpose of the law is not to interfere in any way with the honest practice of the professions affected by it, but to put a stop to the criminal trade in these habit-forming drugs. Cupidity, not conscience, should know fear.

MEDICAL COMMENT ON WAR VICTIMS.

A distinguished English physician, writing to a friend here in California, conveys some interesting facts in regard to conditions related to wounded soldiers. Of course there is much of the letter which is not exactly neutral in tone (!) and therefore is omitted. At the request of the recipient of the letter, all names of men and places are left out:

I have seen a good deal of the wounded soldiers—we have had 900 in the — Hospital where I am vice-chairman and to be chairman in March, and I am inspector of Red Cross Auxiliary Hospitals over the whole of —, which keeps me motoring all about the country. A very large number of beds—about 700—have been equipped by private persons, mostly only 8 or 12 in one place, so it is a big job. We get relief by drafting out from the — Hospital our slight and semi-convalescent patients so as to have our beds free for the more serious cases. We have erected

marquees and a long wooden building in the hospital grounds which give us about 140 extra beds, and we also use three wards for soldiers. They almost all arrive septic, but the sepsis as a rule is not of a bad type. Though there are some cases of tetanus and of gangrene, I have never seen wounds so foul producing so little constitutional disturbance. But the sepsis is very capable of causing secondary hemorrhage. Never was a war conducted with such brutality since the early middle ages. The Belgians, of whom I have seen a few, seem very nice fellows, very courteous and very patient. We offered to take some Belgian refugees into our house, but being near the coast this is a prohibited area for aliens so we have not had any.

NEW AND NON-OFFICIAL REMEDIES, 1915.

The 1915 edition of this exceedingly valuable book issued by the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry of the A. M. A., 535 North Dearborn street, Chicago, has been issued and is much enlarged and by so much, more useful. It may be fairly said to contain descriptions of all the worthwhile proprietary and nonofficial remedies now on the market in the United States and it is the only book which contains comprehensive and trustworthy discussions of the composition, source, properties and dosages of proprietary remedies. Paper bound copies cost 50 cents and cloth bound \$1.00, and they may be had from the A. M. A. at the address already given. In addition to the individual descriptions of drugs and preparations, the book contains critical discussions of the various classes of preparations. These general discussions compare the value of the newer remedies with the established drugs which they are designed to displace. Thus the book affords an authoritative review of therapeutic progress.

The book contains, as a supplement, a list of references to discussions of articles not admitted to New and Nonofficial Remedies which have appeared in *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, in the Annual Reports of the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry and in the Reports of the A. M. A. Chemical Laboratory. This list of references enables physicians readily to obtain information in regard to the many nostrums which are exploited to the medical profession.

SUMMER GRADUATE MEDICAL COURSE.

The second of the summer graduate medical courses inaugurated by Stanford University Medical School has been outlined for the present year. The session will extend for six weeks from July 6th to August 14th and all the classes will be in San Francisco. The courses are quite comprehensive in their scope and as some of them are limited in the number of students that will be accepted, those who are considering the matter should correspond early with the Dean, Stanford University Medical School, Sacramento and Webster streets, San Francisco, Calif.